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Economic Research Area

The Economic Research Area of OMB is responsible for that part of the CIA mission, as provided in NSCIB 3 and DCIB 3/1, which is concerned with the production of all-source economic intelligence on the Sino-Soviet Bloc and its activities in non-Bloc countries. This responsibility is discharged through contributions to National Intelligence Estimates and National Intelligence Surveys, support to WHIB agencies, interagency groups, and other CIA Offices in carrying out their assigned responsibilities and through self-initiated research and reporting on matters of intelligence significance. The Area provides secretariats and members of AIC subcommittees in its field of responsibility.

The Office of the Chief, Economic Research provides general guidance and direction to the Area in the fulfillment of its mission. The Chief, Economic Research directs the activities of the supporting staffs within his office -- one concerned with planning and review of the economic intelligence research program and the other with providing current intelligence support -- and the activities of the four operating divisions -- one concerned with overall economic appraisals and three concerned with different sectors of the Bloc economies.

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OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

Economic Research Area (Cont'd)

The Analysis Division is responsible for producing aggregative analyses and all-source integrated economic intelligence in collaboration with other divisions. It is particularly concerned with national and regional studies of the economic capabilities of the Bloc, including national income, economic growth, relationships between economic sectors, fiscal and investment policies, economic organization, consumer welfare, and human resources.

The Industrial Division is responsible for producing all-source economic intelligence on military programs and industries, on machine building and electronics industries and on the non-food consumer goods industries of the Sino-Soviet Bloc. These industries include (1) land armaments and ammunition, (2) aircraft, (3) shipbuilding, (4) guided missiles, (5) land transport equipment, (6) electrical and electronics equipment, (7) industrial equipment, (8) consumer goods, excluding food. Analysis of the military industries places primary focus on the cost and economic burden of the Bloc's military program and modern weapons production. In the field of guided missiles, this Division has the responsibility for estimating Soviet production capabilities as well as analyzing Soviet missile deployment activities and provides the CIA alternate member of the Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee.

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Economic Research Area (Cont'd.)

The Materials Division concerns itself primarily with the study of production, processing, and distribution of industrial and agricultural raw materials and energy resources in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. More specifically, this division produces economic intelligence reports on chemicals, metals and minerals; petroleum, solid fuels, electric power, and nuclear energy; and food and agriculture, including forestry. This division provides an ORR observer to the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee of the IAC.

The Services Division is responsible for providing all-source intelligence on the economic services sectors of the Sino-Soviet Bloc economies and on the trade and other relations of Bloc countries with each other and with countries of the Free World. The division conducts research on Bloc capabilities in transportation, telecommunications and construction; on Bloc international trade and financial relations; and on Bloc activities and capabilities in the economic penetration of underdeveloped countries. In addition, this division is responsible for providing the coordinated intelligence needed by agencies of the U.S. Government charged with the formulation and administration of economic defense policies and operations.

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